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EMMY NOMINATION FOR HBO DOCUMENTARY ON LOCAL CAMP ERIN-LA FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN

Los Angeles, CA — HBO's ONE LAST HUG: THREE DAYS AT GRIEF CAMP, featuring local OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center's Camp Erin LA, is nominated for an Emmy Award in the Outstanding Children's Program category. Showing the indelible effect that sharing, friendship and emotional support can have on children dealing with extraordinary loss, the documentary debuted in April 2014. The Awards will be announced at the 66th Primetime Emmy Awards on August 25, 2014.

ONE LAST HUG highlights the work of professional counselors and volunteers at Camp Erin Los Angeles, a three-day program that encourages grieving children ranging in age from six to 17 to share their feelings and memories with young peers who have also experienced the death of someone close.

Camp Erin Los Angeles is managed by OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center. OUR HOUSE is one of the nation's most respected organizations for grief support and education. For 21 years, OUR HOUSE has helped thousands of grieving children, teens, and adults as they embark on their journeys to hope and healing after the death of a loved one.

OUR HOUSE has provided 6 camp sessions (with a seventh in August), serving over 420 grieving children and teens. A majority of children are from underserved communities and have never been to a camp of any kind. Offered free of charge to all camp participants, Camp Erin-LA is facilitated by grief professionals and approximately 50 trained volunteers each session. There are 43 Camp Erin locations nationwide, founded by the Moyer Foundation.

In ONE LAST HUG, grief specialists and volunteers greet the arriving children with open arms. "We're so proud of you campers," says Lauren Schneider, clinical director of OUR HOUSE and co-director of Camp Erin Los Angeles, at an opening ceremony with campers. "It takes a lot of courage to come to grief camp."

Although the campgrounds, cabins and activities resemble any other camp, every aspect of the experience is geared towards sharing, support and healing. One group ventures out on a grief hike, in search of colorfully painted rocks, each bearing a different "feelings" word. "Angry. We can pretty much all describe that," says camper Samantha when the first stone is found.

Another counselor encourages a group of older children to think of a happy memory with the person who died. Erin, who attends the camp with her brothers, recalls her terminally ill father making it to her soccer game, which her team won. Looking back on the exercise, she says, "Remembering the happy thoughts that I shared felt good. Very good."



On the last night of camp, director Lauren welcomes everyone to the Luminary Ceremony, which takes place by the pool, asking, "How many of you got to say goodbye to your person before they died? Put your hands up." Only a few raise hands. Each child holds a lantern decorated with drawings and messages for the loved one who died, which illuminates the dark night as it floats over the water in a final farewell.

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ONE LAST HUG: THREE DAYS AT GRIEF CAMP is produced in association with The Moyer Foundation, OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center and the New York Life Foundation; directed by Irene Taylor Brodsky; produced by Greg DeHart and Paul Freedman; editor, Paul Freedman; director of photography, Peter Richardson. For HBO: supervising producer, Sara Bernstein; executive producer, Sheila Nevins.

OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center is one of the nation's most respected organizations for grief support and education. For more than 20 years, OUR HOUSE has helped thousands of grieving children, teens, and adults as they embark on their journeys to hope and healing after the death of someone close. The safe, warm, and nurturing environment of their two Los Angeles centers offer support groups specific to age and relationship.

OUR HOUSE is a leading provider of grief education, workshops, seminars, and in-service training to mental health and medical professionals, clergy, educators, and community members who serve grieving families. The OUR HOUSE grief education program is part of the curricula for students at USC's Keck and UCLA's David Geffen Schools of Medicine. To learn more, please visit www.ourhouse-grief.org or call 1.888.417.1444.